Special International Force for Protection of Space Assets

1693. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a call for creation of a special international force for protection of the space assets of various countries;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any step to achieve this goal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) The President of India mentioned in his address to the Space Summit organised on January 4, 2003 at Bangalore under the Indian Science Congress of 2003 that there was a need for an International Space Force made up of all nations willing to participate and contribute to protect world space assets in a manner which would enable peaceful use of space on a global cooperative basis without the looming threat of conflict on earth.

(b) Since it is an issue of international dimensions to be examined by different countries, it cannot be achieved at the level of the Government.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Space technology development and application

1694. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Space Research Organisation has called for a great collaboration effort for space technology development and application;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been entered into with any of the country in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) There has not been any specific call for a great collaboration effort. But Space Research Organisations have generally accepted the need for co-operation.

(c) India has co-operative agreements with Australia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chin, EUMETSAT, European Space Agency (ESA), France, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Mauritius, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Russia, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, U.K. Ukraine